



Pilgrim Congregational Church,
United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation
April 14, 2024
Third Sunday of Eastertide

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- ❖ **PRELUDE:** Jesus Christ is Risen Today
— David Schelat
- ❖ **GATHERING HYMN:** Halle Halle
- ❖ **OPENING HYMN:** Joy Dawned Again
on Easter Day*
- ❖ **ANTHEM:** The Lord is my Shepherd
by Lloyd Pfautsch
- ❖ **RESPONSE HYMN:** In the Bulb There
Is a Flower*
- ❖ **OFFERTORY:** Christ is Risen! Shout
Hosanna! — Brian Wren
- ❖ **CLOSING HYMN:** Alleluia! Gracious
Jesus*
- ❖ **POSTLUDE:** The Day of Resurrection
— David Schelat

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Today's service will be recorded.

PRELUDE

Jesus Christ is Risen Today — David Schelat

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Reebee Girash and Sarah Jane Fuller

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Lesley Morrison

ONE: Peace be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

ONE: Let us share the peace of Christ with one another.

*GATHERING HYMN

Halle Halle

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Lesley Morrison

ONE: This is the house of God,

ALL: Enter these gates with praise.

ONE: We thank you that you have answered us and have become our salvation.

ALL: The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

ONE: This is God's doing;

ALL: it is marvelous in our eyes.

ONE: This is the day that the Lord has made!

ALL: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

*OPENING HYMN

Joy Dawned Again on Easter Day — Black Hymnal 241

Joy Dawned Again on Easter Day

241

Latin, c. 5th century
Transl. John Mason Neale, 1851; alt.

Luke 24:36-37

1 Joy dawned a - gain on Eas - ter Day, the sun shone
2 O Je - sus, Sav - ior, Gen - tle One, come take our
3 O Sov - ereign One, with us a - bide in this our

out with bright ar - ray; For when the A - pos - tles
hearts to be your own, That we may give you
joy - ful Eas - ter - tide; From ev - ery weap - on

hid in fear, the Ris - en Christ to them ap - peared.
all our days the will - ing trib - ute of our praise.
death can wield, your own re - deemed for - ev - er shield.

This anonymous Latin hymn of uncertain date is one of the two earliest hymns assigned to a special season. From that beginning grew a full list of medieval Latin hymns assigned to specific times and seasons.

Tune: PUER NOBIS NASCITUR L.M.
German carol, 15th century
Adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1609
Harm. George R. Woodward, 1910

1 Joy dawned again on Easter Day,
the sun shone out with bright array;
For when the Apostles hid in fear,
the Risen Christ to them appeared.

2 O Jesus, Savior Gentle One,
come take our hearts to be your own,
That we may give you all our days
the willing tribute of our praise.

3 O Sovereign One, with us abide
in this our joyful Easter-tide;
From every weapon death can wield,
Thine own redeemed forever shield.

OPENING PRAYER

Lesley Morrison

Come, O Creator, O Immensity of Love, O Eternity of mercy. Come, and be with us and beside us and over us. Be as hands upon us, and fashion us for shining. Be as warmth within us and fire us for caring. Be as strength beside us, and shape our lives for healing. Abide in our prayers, the spoken and unspoken, and make your Word come true in our flesh, through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 3:1-10

Lesley Morrison

One day Peter and John were going up to the temple at the hour of prayer, at three o'clock in the afternoon. ²And a man lame from birth was being carried in. People would lay him daily at the gate of the temple called the Beautiful Gate so that he could ask for alms from those entering the temple. ³When he saw Peter and John about to go into the temple, he asked them for alms. ⁴Peter looked intently at him, as did John, and said, "Look at us." ⁵And he fixed his attention on them, expecting to receive something from them. ⁶Peter said, "I have no silver or gold, but what I have I give you; in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, stand up and walk." ⁷And he took him by the right hand and raised him up, and immediately his feet and ankles were made strong. ⁸Jumping up, he stood and began to walk, and he entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God. ⁹All the people saw him walking and praising God, ¹⁰and they recognized him as the one who used to sit and ask for alms at the Beautiful Gate of the temple, and they were filled with wonder and astonishment at what had happened to him.

ONE: Here ends the reading. Hear what the Spirit of God is saying to the church.
ALL: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

The Lord is my Shepherd by Lloyd Pfautsch

SERMON

*RESPONSE HYMN

In the Bulb There Is a Flower — Black Hymnal 433

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Reebee Girash

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father (Creator), who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

In the Bulb There Is a Flower

Natalie Sleeth, 1985

Unison

1 In the bulb there is a flow - er; in the seed, an ap - ple tree;
 2 There's a song in ev - ery si - lence, seek - ing word and mel - o - dy;
 3 In our end is our be - gin - ning; in our time, in - fin - i - ty;

in co - coons, a hid - den prom - ise: but - ter - flies will soon be free!
 there's a dawn for ev - ery dark - ness, bring - ing hope to you and me.
 in our doubt there is be - liev - ing; in our life, e - ter - ni - ty.

In the cold and snow of win - ter there's a spring that waits to be,
 From the past will come the fu - ture; what it holds, a mys - ter - y,
 In our death, a res - ur - rec - tion; at the last, a vic - to - ry,

un - re - vealed un - til its sea - son, some - thing God a - lone can see.
 un - re - vealed un - til its sea - son, some - thing God a - lone can see.
 un - re - vealed un - til its sea - son, some - thing God a - lone can see.

Natalie Sleeth composed her "Hymn of Promise" first as a choral anthem and then adapted it to this version for congregational singing. It was dedicated to her husband, Ronald Sleeth, who died shortly after she completed it.

Tune: PROMISE 8.7.8.7.D.
 Natalie Sleeth, 1985

1 In the bulb there is a flower;
 in the seed, an apple tree;
 in cocoons, a hidden promise:
 butterflies will soon be free!
 In the cold and snow of winter
 there's a spring that waits to be,
 unrevealed until its season,
 something God alone can see.

2 There's a song in every silence,
 seeking word and melody;
 there's a dawn in every darkness,
 bringing hope to you and me.
 From the past will come the future;
 what it holds, a mystery,
 unrevealed until its season,
 something God alone can see.

3 In our end is our beginning;
 in our time, infinity;
 in our doubt there is believing;
 in our life, eternity.
 In our death, a resurrection;
 at the last, a victory,
 unrevealed until its season,
 something God alone can see.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Rev. Reebee Girash

OFFERTORY

Psalm 118

This is the Day — Michael Joncas

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen *or*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Bless these gifts, O God, and through them bless our neighbors. Through these gifts make Your love known in our world. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

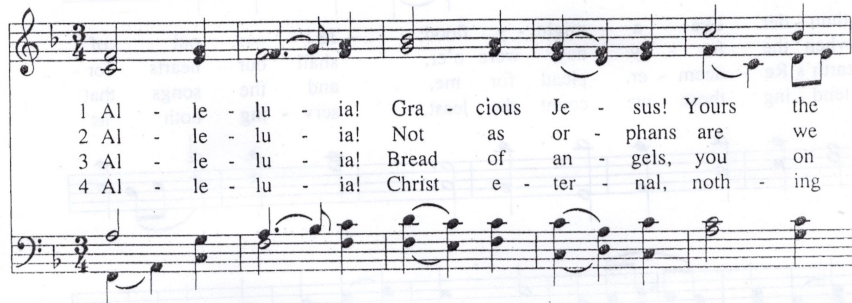
ASCENSION

257

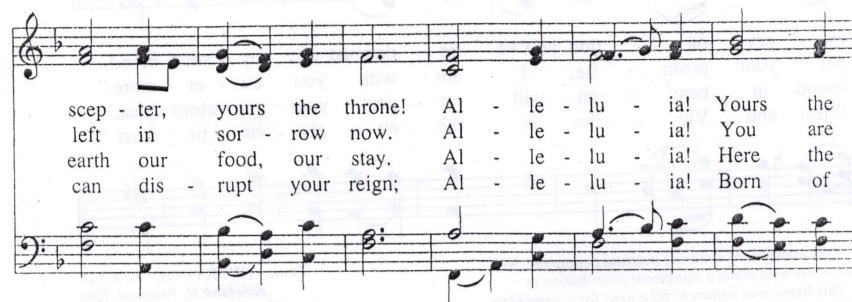
Alleluia! Gracious Jesus!

Eph. 1:15-23; Heb. 9:11-14

William C. Dix, 1867; alt.



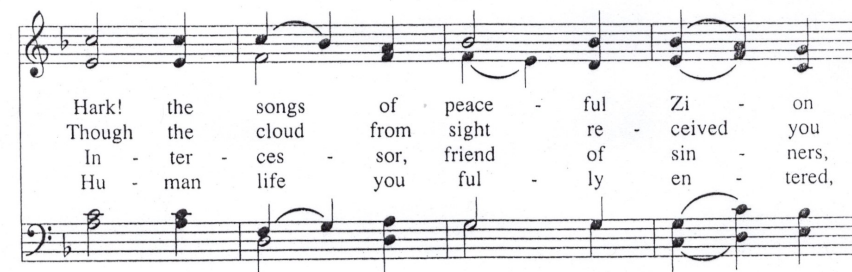
1 Al - le - lu - ia! Gra - cious Je - sus! Yours the
2 Al - le - lu - ia! Not as or - phans are we
3 Al - le - lu - ia! Bread of an - gels, you on
4 Al - le - lu - ia! Christ e - ter - nal, noth - ing



scep - ter, yours the throne! Al - le - lu - ia! Yours the
left in sor - row now. Al - le - lu - ia! You are
earth our food, our stay. Al - le - lu - ia! Here the
can dis - rupt your reign; Al - le - lu - ia! Born of

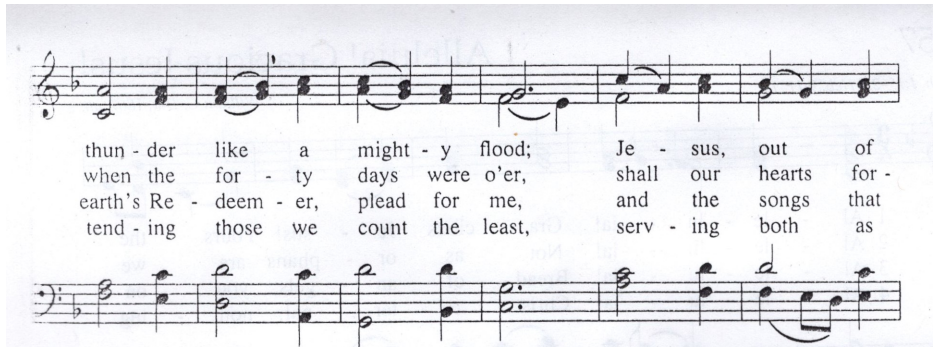


tri - umph, yours the vic - to - ry a - lone!
near us; faith be - lieves, nor ques - tions how.
sin - ful flee to you from day to day.
Mar - y, heaven and earth are your do - main.

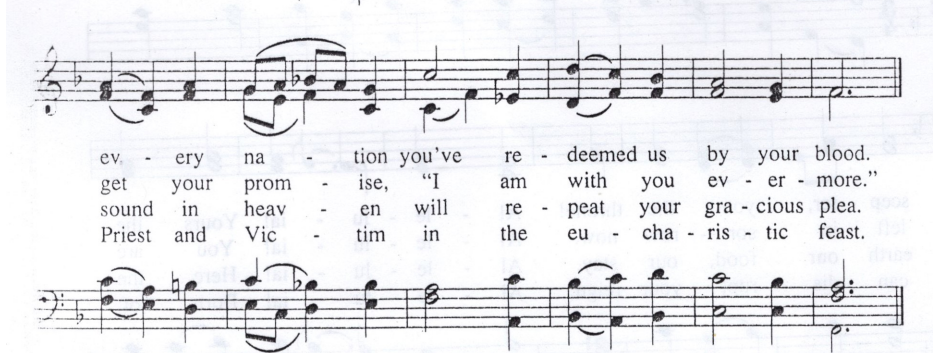


Hark! the songs of peace - ful Zi - on
Though the cloud from sight re - ceived you
In - ter - ces - sor, friend of sin - ners,
Hu - man life you ful - ly en - tered,

Alleluia! Gracious Jesus — Black Hymnal 257



thun - der like a might - y flood; Je - sus, out of
when the for - ty days were o'er, shall our hearts for -
earth's Re - deem - er, plead for me, and the songs that
tend - ing those we count the least, serv - ing both as



ev - ery na - tion you've re - deemed us by your blood.
get your prom - ise, "I am with you ev - er - more."
sound in heav - en will re - peat your gra - cious plea.
Priest and Vic - tim in the eu - cha - ris - tic feast.

1 Alleluia! Gracious Jesus! Yours the scepter, yours the throne!

Alleluia! Yours the triumph, yours the victory alone!

Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood;

Jesus out of every nation you've redeemed us by your blood.

2 Alleluia! Not as orphans are we left in sorrow now.

Alleluia! You are near us; faith believes, nor questions how.

Though the cloud from sight received you when the forty days were o'er,

shall our hearts forget your promise, "I am with you evermore."

3 Alleluia! Bread of angels, you on earth our food, our stay.

Alleluia! Here the sinful flee to you from day to day.

Intercessor, friend of sinners, earth's Redeemer, plead for me,

and the songs that sound in heaven will repeat your gracious plea.

4 Alleluia! Chris eternal, nothing can disrupt your reign;

Alleluia! Born of Mary, heaven and earth are your domain.

Human life you fully entered, tending those we count the least,

-serving both as Priest and Victim in the eucharistic feast.

BENEDICTION

Rev. Reebee Girash

POSTLUDE

The Day of Resurrection — David Schelat

**Please be in a posture of praise.*

Thank you to our Liturgist, Lesley Morrison and
our Zoom host, Madeleine Clark.

SOURCE NOTES

The opening prayer is by Arnold Kenseth.